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BSP1-5319L CONT(BXTB 3083)
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Olson, et al.
Serial No. (To be assigned)
Filed September 5, 2000
For HEMOGLOBIN MUTANTS THAT REDUCE HEME LOSS

September 5, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS,

SIR:

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1 after the title, please insert the following:

-- **Reference to Related Applications**

This application is a continuation of U.S. application serial no. 09/051,872, filed April 22, 1998. --.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-9 and add claims 10-15:

10. (new) A method of reducing excess heme in an *in vivo* or *in vitro* system comprising
- a) administering to the system an amount of an apoprotein composition sufficient to reduce the excess heme, the apoprotein composition comprising an alpha or beta globin-like protein comprising at least one mutation consisting of a single amino acid change that stabilizes heme binding.